

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
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November 23, 2016

CD Cairns Revocable Trust
P.O. Box 2126
South Burlington, VT, 05407

RE: Site Management Activity Completed, Former Northern Auto, 125 Railroad Street, St Johnsbury (SMS Site #2001-2904)

Dear CD Cairns Revocable Trust:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has recently conducted a review of the above referenced site file. Information contained within our site file includes the following:

- On July 10, 2001, one 2,000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil Underground Storage Tank (UST) was removed from the Former Northern Auto property. At the time of removal, the tank was noted to be in very poor condition. During excavation, a photoionization detector (PID) was utilized to screen soils for the presence of petroleum volatile organic compounds (VOCs); readings peaked at 15.5 parts per million (ppm). Soils were excavated to a depth of approximately 14 feet below ground surface (bgs). No groundwater was encountered during excavation. The limits of contamination were defined both vertically and laterally with a PID, and all readings for soils remaining in the tank grave were less than 1 ppm. Approximately 1.5 cubic yards of soil were stockpiled onsite.
- Two confirmatory soil samples were taken from bottom and side walls of the tank grave and analyzed for VTDEC Petroleum Target VOC list (Method 8021B). No analytes were reported above laboratory detection limits in either sample.
- The fate of the stockpiled soils is unknown. A recent conversation with Mr. Dick Browne of Champlain Oil Co., confirmed that soils were not onsite when the current owner acquired the property in 2007. It is estimated that the soils were removed sometime in 2002. Mr. Joe Hayes of Environmental Compliance Services (ECS) confirmed that no documentation for soil transport or disposal exists in any ECS files. Mr. Hayes also contacted Mr. Gene Pushee of Bradford Oil Co. who is similarly uncertain of the final destination of the soils. The property is entirely covered by either pavement or buildings, so it is assumed that no soils were thin spread on the property and were transported offsite at an unknown time.
- Sensitive receptors were assessed by ECS (formerly Marin Environmental, Inc.) in July 2001. The property is supplied by municipal water and sewer and no water supply wells exist on the surrounding properties. The nearest water body is the Passumpsic River, located approximately 600 feet east of the former UST.

Based on the above, it appears that this site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the SMS is assigning the site a Sites Management Activities Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMAC designation does not release CD Cairns Revocable Trust from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at this site. It does, however, mean the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the UST removal at this time.



Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me; I may be reached at (802) 249-5822.

Sincerely,



Patricia Coppolino
Environmental Program Manager
Sites Management Section

c: Joe Hayes, ECS (via e-mail)
DEC Regional Office – St. Johnsbury, Richard Wilson (via e-mail)
St Johnsbury Selectboard/Council
St Johnsbury Health Officer